

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for dividing a print task into a plurality of proportional

modified print tasks, said method comprising the following acts:

 sending a print task from an application executing on a computing device to a driver on said computing device;

 converting said print task to a printer-specific print task with said driver;

 sending said printer-specific print task to a spooler on said computing device;

 sending said printer-specific print task from said spooler to a non-driver, print processor on said computing device;

 receiving print task modification commands at said non-driver print processor,
wherein said commands comprise a copy-splitting command;

 determining individual printer capabilities for a plurality of printers, wherein said capabilities relate to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity;

identifying a quantity of printers, among said plurality of printers, that have the capability to execute said print task;

 dividing said printer-specific print task into a ~~plurality~~ quantity of modified print tasks with said non-driver print processor on said computing device, wherein said quantity of modified print tasks is equal to said quantity of printers;

wherein each of said modified print tasks is associated with one of said quantity of printers;

wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to the capabilities of ~~one of said plurality of a printers,~~ among said quantity of printers, to which said print task is associated;

wherein each of said modified print tasks consists of one of more iterations of said printer-specific print task; and

simultaneously spooling all of said modified print tasks to said quantity of printers.

2 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said sending said print task modification commands comprises reading command data from a configuration file.

3 (original). The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of prompting a user for print task modification commands.

4 (canceled).

5 (previously presented). The method of claim 3 wherein said prompting is driver-based.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is primarily proportional to the speed of the printer associated with the print task.

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9 (previously presented). The method of claim 1 wherein said dividing comprises a combination of copy splitting and job splitting.

10. (canceled)

11 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is a printer-ready file.

12 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is journalled printer data.

13 (currently amended). A post-driver print processor capable of modifying a print task, after driver processing, according to print task modification commands, said print processor comprising:

a spooler interface for receiving a print task from a spooler, wherein said spooler and said spooler interface reside on an end-user computing device;

a command interface on said end-user computing device, said command interface for receiving a ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting command from a user at said end-user computing device;

a divider, on said end-user computing device, said divider for dividing said print task according to said ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting command, after a driver has processed said print task, thereby creating a plurality of modified print tasks wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional at least one of a printer speed, printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with said modified print task;

wherein said modified print tasks consist of one or more iterations of said print task; and

an output, on said end-user computing device, said output for simultaneously sending ~~at least one of~~ said plurality of modified print tasks to the printers associated with said modified print tasks.

14 (canceled).

15 (previously presented). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command_interface is a dialog box.

16 (canceled).

17 (previously presented). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command_interface prompts a user for copy splitting parameters.

18 (canceled).

19 (previously presented). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command_interface prompts a user for multiple printer selection.

20 (currently amended). A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for modifying a print task at an end-user computing device with a post-driver print processor, said instructions comprising the acts of:

receiving a printer-driver-converted print task at a print processor on said end-user computing device, said printer-driver-converted print task being received from a spooler;

receiving ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting commands at said print processor on said end-user computing device; ~~and~~

dividing said printer-driver-converted print task into a plurality of modified print tasks with said print processor on said end-user computing device, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with each of said modified print tasks; and

simultaneously spooling all of said modified print tasks to printers with which they are associated.

21. (canceled)

22 (currently amended). A method for modifying a print task with a print processor on an end-user computing device, said method comprising the acts of:

sending a print task to a driver on said end-user computing device;

converting said print task with said driver on said end-user computing device;

prompting a user for ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting commands on said end-user computing device;

receiving said ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting commands through a user interface on said end-user computing device;

creating a spool file for said converted print task on said end-user computing device;
sending said spool file to a spooler on said end-user computing device;
spooling said spool file to a modifying non-driver print processor on said end-user computing device; ~~and~~
modifying said spool file according to said ~~print task modification~~ copy-splitting commands on said end-user computing device, after said converting by said driver, thereby creating a plurality of modified print tasks, wherein the size of each of said modified print task is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer with which each of said modified print tasks is associated;
wherein each of said modified print tasks consists of one or more iterations of said converted print task; and
simultaneously spooling said modified print tasks to printers with which they are associated.

23 (canceled).

24. (new) A method for dividing a print task into a plurality of proportional modified print tasks, said method comprising the following acts:

sending a print task from an application executing on a computing device to a driver on said computing device;
converting said print task to a printer-specific print task with said driver;
sending said printer-specific print task to a spooler on said computing device;
sending said printer-specific print task from said spooler to a non-driver, print processor on said computing device;

receiving a print task modification command at said non-driver print processor wherein said command identifies a copy-splitting selection;

determining individual printer capabilities for a plurality of printers, wherein said capabilities relate to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability, as user printer selection and a printer media capacity; and

dividing said printer-specific print task into a plurality of modified print tasks with said non-driver print processor on said computing device, wherein the quantity of said modified print tasks is equal to the number of printers, among said plurality of printers, that meet a capability requirement, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to a capability of a printer, among said plurality of printers, to which said print task is associated, and wherein each of said modified print tasks comprises one or more iterations of said printer-specific print task; and

simultaneously spooling identical iterations of said printer-specific print task to said printers, among said plurality of printers, that meet said capability requirement.